(2) No casuality/adverse reaction to either the Injection or tablet. MEM has been reported.

(3) The Drug Inspector, Ratnagiri Maharashtra State has initiated action under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, based upon the test reports received in respect of Injection MEM.

Action Plan to Curb Rabies Deaths

460. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of the 75,000 deaths recorded due to rabies a year worldwide, India contributes to around 35,000 deaths; and

(b) if so, whether any nation-wide action plan has been drawn up to effectively curb and contain this menace, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken so far to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) and (b) According to the figures made available by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence the number of deaths on account of rabies during last three years are as follows:

Year	Deaths
1996	281
1997	386
1998	365

During the Sixth Plan period a programme on limited scale for control of canine rables was sanctioned in 16 States and Union Territories. Each State/UT was allocated 1 to 2 canine rabies control units. An amount of Rs. 117 lakh and Rs. 192 lakh and Rs. 334 lakh were earmarked as Central assistance for these programme during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Plan.

During 1997-98 an amount of Rs. 70 lakh was provided under this Programme. This Programme is being continued during the Ninth Plan. At present a total of about 60 canine rabies control Units are functioning in the country.

Opening of CGHS Dispensaries in Delhi

461. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: